

Council on Postsecondary Education
March 24, 2003

Legislative Update

The 2003 Kentucky General Assembly adjourned March 11 and will return March 24 and 25 to complete its work. At this writing, few pieces of legislation have passed that have a direct impact on the postsecondary system. Below is a brief description of some of those:

- Senate Bill 85 establishes procedures for making available postsecondary textbooks and instructional materials in forms accessible to people with disabilities. The Council on Postsecondary Education is required - to the degree funds are available - to maintain a repository of these materials.
- Senate Bill 152 excludes individuals who reside outside the 50 states from serving on the board of regents of a comprehensive university or the Kentucky Community and Technical College System. The Council on Postsecondary Education is required to notify current regents who are ineligible to serve.
- House Bill 40 allows Kentucky students who are enrolled in theology, divinity, or religious programs of study to receive scholarships and grants administered by the Kentucky Higher Education Assistance Authority. These students were previously ineligible.
- House Bill 194 requires the Council on Postsecondary Education to work with the Kentucky Commission on Services and Supports for Individuals with Mental Illness on workforce issues in the field of mental health.
- House Bill 223 makes various changes to the Kentucky Postsecondary Education Improvement Act of 1997 regarding the structure and governance of the Kentucky Community and Technical College System.
- House Concurrent Resolution 141 directs the Interim Joint Committee on Education to study the Kentucky Educational Excellence Scholarship (KEES) program and suggest changes to the program before the 2004 session of the General Assembly.